





Consignees are hereby informed that  
Claims must be made immediately, as  
will be entertained after the 3rd Prox.  
**DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO**  
*Agents*  
**Hongkong, April 27, 1886.**

1884  
Nagar District: 1880

500	all	8.2
500	all	8.2

A. G. STOKES, Share Broker

on board the packet with  
 Fee of 10 cents until the  
 departure.

Singapore for this port on the 1st April, and may be expected here about the 11th May.

China, which was hitherto sadly hindered by want of uniform and hearty co-operation.



Two inquests were held this afternoon at the Tung Wa Hospital. The first was on the body of Ip Shu who was employed at a godown at Wandan. It appears that while he was rolling a cask of cement yesterday morning, the cask came in contact with a piece of wood which struck deceased so severe a blow on the head that he died about twenty-four hours after he was taken to the hospital. The second inquest was on the body of a young girl, Wang Li-Ha, three years of age, on whom a pot of boiling water was poured the other day at the house of her parents, 133 Queen's Road Central. She was taken to the Tung Wa Hospital, where, after suffering severe pain, she died this morning.

The Concert in aid of the fund for the benefit of the widow and child of Quarter-Master Sergeant Yoo will be given on Thursday evening next. Efforts are being made successfully to prepare an excellent and varied programme. Among the items will be several readings by Mr Evelyn Bellow, son of the brilliant reader and elocutionist, Mr J. M. Bellow. Mr Evelyn Bellow's elocutionary gifts and ability are also of a very high order, and his appearance alone ought to attract a considerable number of the public. Other well known ladies and gentlemen amateurs have promised their assistance, and their Excellencies the Acting Governor and General Cameron have promised their patronage and presence at the entertainment.

The first consignment of cows for the Hongkong Dairy Farm Company arrived here from San Francisco in the O. & C. Co.'s steamer *Oceanic*. Fifty cows were shipped, but only thirty-seven of the herd survived the passage, no less than ten had succumbed during a severe storm which was encountered when the vessel was only a day's steam from San Francisco. A bull also died on the voyage between Yokohama and this port. The surviving cattle and eight calves born during the passage have arrived in excellent condition, and in a few days the Company hope to be able to supply their customers with milk. In the meantime, the animals have been landed at Kowloon, where they will remain a few days. We may add that the Dairy Company were insured against loss.

Four boatsmen were charged before Mr Maclean this forenoon with hawking spirits and selling them on board the British steamer *Parthia* yesterday without a license. Mr Wotton appeared for the defendants. The complainant was A. McGowan, chief steward on board, who said that as he was going along the deck of the vessel yesterday he found one of the boatmen putting Ng Afat, the second of the defendants, out of the butcher's shop. He went into the shop and found a bottle of liquor which he handed over subsequently to the Captain. The chief cook on board, W. Turquand, said Ng Afat came to the galley and asked if he wished to buy anything. Witness asked what he had got, and was told of several articles, including gin. Witness asked for a small bottle of gin, but could only get a large one, the price of which was 50 cents. The gin was left by the Chinaman, but was not paid for; the cook admitted, however, that if it had not afterwards been seized, he would have paid for it. The chief officer, John William Stanklin, said that on being informed by the steward that there had been a man selling liquor alongside, he went after Ng Afat and brought his sampan alongside. He produced the bottle of gin, which the Chinaman eventually acknowledged to be his. They had been greatly troubled with Chinamen bringing on board sampan and other liquors which made the sailors almost mad, and he had taken this opportunity of making an example of them having caught them red-handed. After some further evidence had been led, Ng Afat, who it was mentioned was an old lunkon, along with another of the defendants, was fined \$100, with the alternative of 3 months' hard labour. The other two defendants among whom there was but slender evidence were discharged. The moiety of the fine was ordered to be handed to the chief officer for distribution, and the boat to be confiscated.

According to the *Hypo* a new fort will shortly be erected at Woosung after the foreign model, and for this purpose a tract of land has been purchased for Tls. 1,419.28.—*Shanghai Courier*.

Five the *Shanghai Courier*—We are pleased to note the promotion of Mr W. Reynolds to the post of Captain of the steamer *Ashtington*. Mr Reynolds has been for some time Chief Officer of the steamer *Poland*, and has always made himself popular with those with whom he may have had dealings. He will without doubt, fill his new position in the *Ashtington* with the same credit that he did while in the *Poland*.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Gazette Diplomatique* mentions a characteristic piece of news from Central Asia. In drawing the new north-west boundary line between Afghanistan and Russian territory, the Sink Turkomans were left in Afghanistan, and they have now emigrated to the border of Russian territory. It is evident from this, says the correspondent, that the artificial line now decided on must be rectified sooner or later, and it is hoped that the compliance of Mr. Gladstone to Russia will now allow the establishment of a just and natural boundary which will satisfy the intrigues of the Russian, whose policy is to mutilate the paper.

Mr. Cowley is informed that a factory will soon be erected in Tientsin, near the Hai Kwan Tso Arsenal, for manufacturing large cannon. The necessary machinery has already been purchased from a firm in Germany, and it will be in working order at no distant date.

The French journals are, not unnaturally, considerably amused by the difficulties caused to our Foreign Office by the Chinese claim of sovereignty over Burma. They point out that Mr. Colquhoun and the intimate friends of Marquis Tseng did the best to turn against France the claims of China to sovereignty over Tongking; that what is asked for the good is asked for the good; and that if China's claim was good for Tongking, it is equally good for Burma. English publicists have furnished the Chinese diplomats with all the necessary arguments; the *Tory National Review* having distinctly pointed out, in a very interesting article published in July 1884, that China's superiority and preponderance over her immediate neighbours, Corea, Nepal, Burma and Annam were indisputable. Without going back to the legends of Chinese conquest in the 3rd and 11th centuries, it is unquestioned that Burma sent a tribute-bearing mission to Peking in 1876, which was mentioned in the *Peking Gazette* in December, 1876, with a copy of the King of Burma's letter, couched in terms of the most humble adulation.—*N. O. D. News*.

The American papers contain rather a good story about the Chinese Minister to the States:—

Washington, March 26.—The Chinese Minister and his suite, as every one in Washington knows, occupy the mansion known as Stewart Castle, one of the largest and most commodious residences in the national capital. Not long ago the Minister was waited upon by some well-known ladies, who are acknowledged leaders in society here, to get his consent to have a party of some kind or other in the castle for the benefit of the Garfield Hospital. The old fellow is not a fool. He is as shrewd in diplomacy as the most experienced man in the corps, and realizing what a power Washington society is in national politics, he readily consented to granting the use of the house for the entertainment, and offered in addition to furnish the tea for the occasion. He did not fully comprehend what he had consented to do. He did not know that the intention was to convert his house into a common bazaar, for the purpose of raising money for the Garfield Hospital. He said and any one could be admitted. He thought it was only intended to have a little party, to which all the guests would be specially invited, and that he might by a little politeness and kindness aid a good cause.

He realized what he had done he began to devise means of avoiding the engagement. He did not like to withdraw the privilege he had granted, for that would seem impolite, and impoliteness is not in the vocabulary of the Chinese Minister. He has hit upon a better way of getting out of the affair without flitting refusing the house and thereby giving the cause of Washington society. He is soon to be succeeded by another Minister, who is coming from China, but he did not intend to go immediately and he fully expected to be in Washington when the bazaar project came off. He now finds it absolutely necessary that he should leave immediately, and this he will do. His successor will be in charge of the legation, and the ladies can hardly feel, under the circumstances, that he can hold, by any rule of society etiquette, his successor to the bargain he made.

The seal of secrecy (says the *San Francisco Chronicle*) has been removed from the entire correspondence between the State Department of the U. S. and China from May 1st, 1882, to February 6, 1886. The Senate in executive session decided to make the correspondence public, and to-day it was accessible to the press. It makes a large volume and is one of great importance. The first letter of the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires to the Secretary of State is dated May 20, 1882. After the passage of the Chinese Restriction Act, he protested against the ten-years' clause as too long, and also against the clause requiring outgoing Chinamen to secure certificates to enable them to return. This requirement, the letter says, will work a hardship. In his second letter to the Secretary of State, dated June 2, 1882, the Chargé d'Affaires suggests that the Chinese Consul-General at the various ports in the United States may counter-argue. He also demands that skilled laborers be allowed to come to the United States. Secretary Frelinghuysen replied to the note on June 23, 1882, saying that no objections will be made by the Government to the plan of issuing certificates suggested by the Chinese Minister.

After stating that he pointed the wily Chinese diplomat next upon the question of Chinese in transit, and pathetically appeal to the liberal spirit of the age, which certainly would not prohibit Chinese in transit to land. On January 6, 1883, Frelinghuysen addressed a note to Cheng Tsao Lin, saying: "I am happy to inform you that this Government has reached the conclusion to transmit through the United States of Chinese is permissible under the Act." Cheng replied two days afterwards that this was gratifying information. On May 31, 1883, John Russell Young, the United States Minister to China, volunteered the interpretation of the law that the United States Consul at Nagasaki is competent authority to issue a certificate to Chinamen who, in his judgment, are entitled to land in this country. John Davies, Frelinghuysen's son-in-law and Acting Secretary of State, approved Young's decision.

Three days after Davies' letter was received on August 4, 1884, the Chinese Minister reviews the second Chinese Bill. He objects that the certificates must be in English, and that the word "merchant" excludes hucksters and peddlars, and he objects to the clause that coming to this country illegally is punished as a crime. The entire correspondence shows a subtle power of diplomacy on the part of the Chinese Minister, and a shameful acquiescence on the part of our Secretary of State to all demands made by the Chinese representative.

'FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR.—That the flaw in the Proclamation, as to China's ousting to declare that the Island of Hongkong is British Territory, should be rectified.

That the Proclamation issued by H. E. the Administrator, upon the subject of the violation of the soil by the Chinese man-of-war's men, was in other respects a most satisfactory piece of work. That undignified squabbles between Magistrates and Lawyers in Court do not tend to uphold the majesty of the Law.

That Mr. Wotton, although rather too fond of pepper seasoning, appears to have scored on this occasion. That Mr. Mitchell-Innes, did he but keep his head or his temper, or both, need not give any solicitor an opportunity of overstepping the bounds of propriety within the Court.

That the administration of the law, especially in Colonies, should invariably be entrusted to those who, by study and experience of men and affairs, have become duly qualified to undertake the duty and to inspire confidence on all sides.

That the Chamber of Commerce and the community are to be congratulated upon the nomination of Mr. A. P. MacEwen to a seat on the Legislative Council. That the Home Authorities are beginning to realize the necessity of resorting to the personal correction of hardened offenders.

That the local Executive are taking measures which it is hoped will enable the authorities to deal energetically with Secret Societies in this Colony.

That these secret combinations enter into the affairs of everyday life here, commercially as well as industrially, to an extent which could hardly be credited by casual observers.

That the seller or purchaser of a Manila lottery ticket has not yet been declared to be a vagrant.

That he is not likely to be so designated by the law for some time to come.

That the Manila Government Lottery is, at the same time, a discreditable mode of raising revenue which works much evil.

That the Colonial Treasurer, while honestly endeavouring to consolidate the Stamp Act, should refrain from describing honest and well-meaning criticism as "very uncalled-for remarks."

That the justice of the 'uncalled-for remarks' has been made manifest by the decision arrived at in Council.

That the Acting Attorney General's attempt to stand upon a single ball of raw opium has not been a success, and that he suddenly gave up the attempt, with profuse apologies to the audience.

That the holding of these meetings of the Legislative Council within seven days is an instance of public spirit which has never been known in Hongkong until now.

That all passenger-carrying steam-launches should be compelled to provide proper and safe seats for their passengers.

That the steam-whistle nuisance has been scotched but not killed.

That screeching wheelbarrows might now receive a little attention.

That the Fatherland must be acquitted of all blame for the miserable spirit shown by our recalled naval men in his unjust attack upon Great Britain.

That nations live by their reputation and prestige, and that John Bull is not yet dead, although some people are anxious to attend his funeral.

That Germany will reach her proper attitude more readily by the aid of England than otherwise.

That Germany have no reason to complain in this Colony, as they now occupy many of the chief seats in our commercial synagogues.

That our supply of Colonial cadets is likely to exceed the demand, and that the taxpayers are beginning to reckon the salaries that may have to be paid.

That many of our best officials are the outcome of the 'cadet' system originally suggested by Dr Legge, but that the market is now rather full, and the Colonial Office is following too much its own devices in this matter.

That the Chinese might take a leaf out of the Russian book, and proceed to develop the petroleum fields of Formosa.

That petroleum has a wonderful future before it, and its development in Formosa would do good to Chinese and foreigners alike.

That the Hongkong Government are showing a great want of foresight in not promptly settling the Kowloon lease question.

That the community are greatly indebted to the Choral Festival Committee, and the Chorus generally, for the creditable interpretation of Handel's grand music on Tuesday last.

That the Farewell Benefit business has taken the place of the Farewell Address mania.

That we are promised a treat in the shape of Pocock's 'Rob Roy,' with a well-known resident as the *Bailie* and another as the *Dugal Craigh*.

## HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION MEETING.

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leave that army under any engagement to serve a person or association of persons, and whenever any sailor other than Chinese, but not being a British subject, is discharged here, and such person, soldier or sailor becomes chargeable to the colony as a vagrant within twelve months after arrival or discharge, the person or association for whom the person was landed or the soldier left the army, or the owner or agent of the ship from which the man was discharged, shall be liable to pay the cost of his removal and all other charges. A shipmaster will also be liable for all calls incurred in respect of any person other than Chinese who at the time of landing from his ship is obviously destitute. Penalties are provided for breaches of the ordinance.

## THE OPIUM QUESTION.

The N. O. D. News publishes the following memorial:—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, Earl of Dufferin, K.T., G.C.B., G.C.I.E., G.C.S.I., Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council.

The Honourable Member of the undersigned Opium Merchants of Bombay.

Sheweth, That your memorialists are deeply interested in the trade in Malwa Opium, being to a great extent dependent on it, and, actually, therefore, to call the attention of your Excellency in Council to the present precarious position of this valuable trade in the hope that Government will recognise the importance of doing what is necessary to place it on a more assured basis.

2.—For some time past the price of Malwa Opium in Bombay has ranged from Rs. 1,150 to Rs. 1,100 per chest, and after deducting therefrom the amount of Government duty Rs. 650, and the expenses incurred in bringing the drug from the producing districts—which with the imports paid by the Native States do not fall short of Rs. 100—there remains for the cultivator only Rs. 450 or 400 per chest, and your memorialists humbly submit that this is not an adequate price.

3.—The trade between the producing districts and Bombay, and that between Bombay and China, are both being circumscribed, as the price of opium shows a loss on the first cost of the drug, while the rates realized in China are again lower than the prices paid in Bombay, so that were it not that this trade is mainly in the hands of large capitalists its dimensions would inevitably have been much curtailed long since.

4.—Hitherto your memorialists have been sustained by the hope of seeing an improvement in the prices realized in China, but from the ever-increasing production of indigenous drug in that country, and the unfavourable reports on the prospects of foreign opium, your memorialists are continually receiving from both official and unofficial sources, it is impossible any longer to indulge in vain anticipations of support from that side.

5.—The trade has further suffered since last year on account of the Chinese Government having raised the lekin tax on foreign opium from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50, and on about Rs. 165 per chest levied formerly, while indigenous drug pay only one-half of the above amount. It will thus be seen that your memorialists have to contend at one and the same time with two serious disadvantages—the increasing production of the indigenous drug, and a serious augmentation of the Chinese duties on the Chinese Government.

6.—A Chest of Malwa Opium has now to pay to the Imperial Chinese Government as soon as it is landed on Chinese soil Customs duty.....Rs. 50 Leikin tax.....Rs. 50 Total.....Rs. 100

7.—Nor does this heavy and unequal import free the foreign drug from further taxation, for on its arrival in the interior the consumers have to pay a fresh or local duty, the amount of which is regulated by the requirements of the native revenue officials of the districts, and the nature of the case it is impossible to give an exact estimate of this local duty, which varies greatly in different places, but your memorialists have reason to believe that it is not less than 15 per cent, and that it is frequently as high as 25 per cent. From this charge opium grown in the immediate locality is free. A trade handicapped in this way by such an accumulation of charges cannot long continue to struggle for existence, and representing as your memorialists do operations which have hitherto brought in an annual revenue of more than two-and-a-half millions sterling to the Government of India, they ask the serious attention of Government to the state of things which is threatening their trade and the finances of this country.

8.—For the further information of your Excellency in Council your memorialists beg to forward herewith a copy of a pamphlet published by a merchant in China, giving a narrative of the unjust enhancement, from time to time, of the lekin tax by the Chinese Government.

9.—In order to effect a substantial improvement in the trade, and to bring about an important development of the exports of Malwa Opium to China, your memorialists are of opinion that the past duty should be reduced to Rs. 50 per chest, and that your memorialists consider that such a concession on the part of Government is necessary to rescue the trade from its impending death by inanition, and as Government is also largely interested in keeping this trade alive, your memorialists venture to hope that their prayer will be granted.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.

DAVID SASSOON & Co. E. D. SASSOON & Co. JATINDR PRAKASH. CHANDERMOY BERAHM. CURRIE & BOWMAN & Co. E. J. ABRAHAM. SASSOON J. DAVID & Co. (And many others.)

Bombay, 29th March 1886.

QUARANTINE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Quarantine at San Francisco would seem to be even a greater farce than it is here, as the following account of the experiences of the passengers by the O. & C. Co.'s steamer *Belgia* on her trip before last will abundantly show. We imagine if European passengers conceive that they are to be treated in a similar manner they will think twice before proceeding home by the States.

The account, though a long one, is very interesting. It is taken from the *Commercial Bulletin*, a Boston paper, of the 20th March.

The lamentable condition of San Francisco under the present official indifference, but fairly understood, in this case.

From the recent statements of travelers, ship masters and importers it appears that political jobbery together with the Chinese craze bids fair to make the Golden Gate the most unpopular port of entry in this country.

There is no quarantine station at San Francisco, only a post house, and, greatly to the annoyance of the Chinese, who are charged with carrying and passengers on the plea of quarantine for the sake of the cheap acquisition of political capital. A case is related where a steamer was examined and passed by the health officer, who, on being told that there was a Chinese child ill with a skin disorder revoked his order, dragged a post house physician on board, pronounced fifteen stercoraceous passengers ill with confluent small pox and put the ship into a seventeen days quarantine. These fifteen cases were taken to the post house on six days after the alleged small pox sufferers were taken to the post house, he was playing, perfectly well, in the streets of San Francisco. He was taken into custody by the company who then brought instant action against the officials and the quarantine on the vessel was removed for the next eleven days after the alleged small pox sufferer was running free in the



